Attorney Docket No. FLWP:101US

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/711,207 Reply to Office Action of March 30, 1006

Date: June 30, 2006

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] The present invention broadly comprises a surge relief valve comprising a main valve body having a dome port and an inlet port. The inlet port is in fluid communication with a first fluid. The invention also comprises further includes a dome reservoir connected to the main valve body via the dome port and arranged to hold a second fluid, a piston located in the main valve body, the piston in fluid communication with the reservoir, and a dampening ring operatively arranged to dampen the piston, wherein the first fluid exerts an upward force on the piston, the second fluid exerts a downward force on the piston, and the piston is arranged to move in response to a differential in the upward and downward forces, wherein the first and second fluids are isolated from one another.

Please replace the section "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS", with the following section:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the surge relief valve assembly of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the surge relief valve shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional view of the surge relief valve shown in Figures 1 and 2, for illustrating the main relief valve in normal operating condition with the surge relief valve member in a closed position blocking flow from the pressure vessel;

Figure 4 shows the surge relief valve assembly of Figure 3 in a closed position; and,

Figure 5 shows the surge relief valve assembly of Figure 3 in an open position; and,

Figure 6 is a side elevational view of an alternative embodiment of the surge relief valve assembly of the present invention with an external reservoir.

Please delete paragraph [0020]:

[0020] In some aspects (not shown), reservoir 301 is separate from cap 32. In these aspects, port 302 is configured to accept one end of a piping arrangement and reservoir 301 is

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provided with a port to accept the other end of the piping arrangement and the piping arrangement provides fluid communication between volumes 70 and 70X. The piping

arrangement can be of any type known in the art, as configured for the parameters of the pressure

relief system.

Please add the following new paragraph [0020.1] after paragraph [0019]:

[0020.1] In an alternative embodiment, shown in Figure 6, reservoir 301 is removed and

replaced by external reservoir piping 352 and external reservoir 350. In this embodiment, port

302 is configured to accept one end of external reservoir piping 352 and external reservoir 350 is

provided with a port to accept the other end of external reservoir piping 352. External reservoir

piping 352 provides fluid communication between volume 70 and the internal volume of external

reservoir 350. The external reservoir piping can be of any type known in the art, as configured

for the parameters of the pressure relief system.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] As the process force abates, the compressed dome gas forces piston 60 downward.

As the piston moves downward, wedge ring 312 provides a dampening function to help ensure

smooth piston movement and reduce the likelihood of rapid piston movements or oscillations.

When the dome force is equal to the process force, piston 60 closes and seat 62 seals tightly

against nozzle 64.

Please replace the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE with following amended paragraph:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A surge relief valve comprising a main valve body having a dome port and an inlet port.

The inlet port is in fluid communication with a first fluid. The invention further includes a dome

reservoir connected to the main valve body via the dome port and arranged to hold a second

fluid, and a piston located in the main valve body, the piston in fluid communication with the

reservoir, and a dampening ring positioned around the circumference of the piston operatively

arranged to dampen the piston, wherein the first fluid exerts an upward force on the piston, the

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second fluid exerts a downward force on the piston, and the piston is arranged to move in response to a differential in the upward and downward forces, wherein the first and second fluids are isolated from one another.